Re 12 06 17 UU MEETING

From Peg Clifford

I had some ideas. I will be referring to these links at our meeting today.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/21/opinion/kaepernick-negro-national-anthem.html?&moduleDetail=section-news-3&action=click&contentCollection=Opinion&region=Footer&module=MoreInSection&version=WhatsNext&contentID=WhatsNext&pgtype=article>

Colin Kaepernick and the Legacy of the Negro National Anthem

[**Editorial Observer**](https://www.nytimes.com/column/editorial-observer)

**By**[**BRENT STAPLES**](https://www.nytimes.com/by/brent-staples)**NOV. 21, 2017**

**00:53**

**4:42**

Video

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

The Abyssinian Baptist Church Choir performs the Negro National Anthem.

 Publish DateNovember 21, 2017. .

<https://rewire.news/article/2011/05/04/blackness-goes-poem-commentary-racism-reproductive-justice-0/>

My Blackness Goes Before Me: A Poem and Commentary on Racism and Reproductive Justice

May 4, 2011, 9:43am [Cheryl Gittens-Jones](https://rewire.news/author/cheryl-gittens-jones/)

I wrote this poem because I had grown tired of people not seeing me beyond the color of my skin or my "otherness." I see it being played out on a larger scale as in African-American's women's right to choose as exemplified in this article that talks about Anti-Abortion Billboards.

A steady anger burns within me  
Welling up from deep  
Deep inside

Three-fifths of a human being  
The sacred constitution of the  
Red, white and blue

Walking into a room  
My blackness goes  
My blackness goes  
Goes before me

Those of the majority  
Not all  
Not few  
But many  
Still do not see  
See me as  
human  
woman

Only  
Black

Not as mother  
Of a beautiful almond eyed  
Sepia skinned  
Baby girl  
Not as graduate  
of  
Ivy league  
Not as wife  
As I  
As Me

Someone whose life is  
Just as significant  
Meaningful  
Purposeful  
Beautiful

Three-fifths of a human being  
The sacred  
Sacred constitution of the  
The red, white  
Red, white and blue  
Not removed  
Still written in  
Indelible ink  
To be read  
Perused  
Overlooked  
Excused  
Invoked

When I walk in  
Into a room in my blackness  
Precedes me  
You see not I  
Not mother  
Not woman  
Not wife  
Just

Black

Nothing has changed

So many things locked in  
Racist  
Classist  
Sexist  
Passive aggressiveness  
Intellectual sarcasm  
Impoverished ignorance  
Blatant Alienation

Little has changed  
I am  
Black and living next door  
Behind the same white  
Picket fence  
Enduring bleached smiles  
But not with  
Eyes

A steady anger  
Burns within me  
Welling up from deep  
Deep inside

Three-fifths of a human being  
The sacred constitution  
Of the red, white, and blue  
Blackness walking  
Walking into  
Into the room before me

**TOPICS AND TAGS:**

[class](https://rewire.news/tag/class/), [discrimination](https://rewire.news/tag/discrimination/), [Human Rights](https://rewire.news/tag/human-rights/), [race](https://rewire.news/tag/race/), [Racism](https://rewire.news/tag/racism/), [Reproductive Rights](https://rewire.news/tag/reproductive-rights/), [Stigma](https://rewire.news/tag/stigma/)

A day trip to

National Museum of African American History and Culture

https://www.google.com/search?q=smithsonian+african+american+history+museum&rlz=1C1NDCM\_enUS702US702&oq=smithsonian+afric&aqs=chrome.2.0j69i57j0l4.6423j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

So I thought I should look at admission info...

**LOOK WHAT I FOUND!**

**Farout...**

[**https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/collection/seeing-black-women-power**](https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/collection/seeing-black-women-power)

Keep thinking what could we do with this.

Grief/Loss/Suicide/Memorial day.

1.Quote: When RFK announced the death of JFK…he quoted Aeschylus

"My favorite poem, my — my favorite poet was Aeschylus," Robert Kennedy said, "and he once wrote:

Even in our sleep, pain which cannot forget  
falls drop by drop upon the heart,  
until, in our own despair,  
against our will,  
comes wisdom  
through the awful grace of God.

"What we need in the United States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence and lawlessness, but is love, and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who still suffer within our country, whether they be white or whether they be black."

<https://www.npr.org/2008/04/04/89365887/robert-kennedy-delivering-news-of-kings-death>

LUCKIEST MAN IN THE WORLD?

2. Mr. Yamaguchi freakishly survived the bombing of Hiroshima. He crossed a river full of bodies on his horrific journey home, using bodies as a raft.

He wanted to tell his friends and family who were in Nagasaki what he had witnessed. As he tried to tell them, and they told him that he was badly injured and not making sense, the bomb hit Nagasaki.

My question to you is

Was Mr. Yamaguchi the luckiest man in WWII or the unluckiest?